

**Viaje del Sol,  
sunny tour  
of Filipino heritage**

**Strong peso, weak  
peso; wherefore  
art thou, Amanda?**



**Cargo vessels collide  
off Cebu port; 17,000  
bags of rice sink**

**2006 Metro Manila  
Film Festival targets  
half a billion pesos**

## CD shows House break-in, 'theft' of election returns

By Gary Lino

THE WALLS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES have been open and seen. Some parts belong to security officers who lack footage of an alleged break-in at a room in the House where ballot boxes containing election returns of the 2004 presidential election were kept.

CD DAWN'S AP

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# PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

Monday, March 13, 2006

PH

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P18

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## 'Kuya' Joe postpones eviction of 'Housemates'

By Michael Lee Ubas

BASED ON HIS REPUTED role as "Big Brother," Senator Joe Almonte now wants to continue looking after the last night of the "Kuya" Housemates who are facing eviction.



## Now it can be told: Esperon was the 'key'

By Fe Zamora

A SHOOTING WAR BETWEEN THE group that planned to withdraw support from President Macapagal-Arroyo and the military faction loyal to her would have played out under a different key.

On one side—according to informants interviewed by the Inquirer—were the Philippine Marines under Maj. Gen. Renato Miranda and Col. Ariel Quinsion, the Scout Rangers under Brig. Gen. Danilo Lim, and the police Special Action Force under Chief Supt. Martin Francisco.

On the other side were Arroyo chief of staff Gen. Hermenegildo Esperon Jr., the Special Operations Command (Secom) and the Special Forces Regiment under Col. Arturo Ochoa, backed up by troops under Maj. Gen. Jose Polopano of the 7th Infantry Division, and all the military assets in the Northern Luzon Command (Nolcom) under Lt. Gen. Romeo Salas.

In the middle stood AFP Chief of Staff Gen. Gregorio Sings, balancing the forces and the events generally.

In the end, it was Esperon's prescience that killed the balance in the Arroyo camp.

One officer said the two factions, NOW-IT CAN BE TOLD

## Riding AFP tail, ending up in its jaws

By Amanda Doran

THE TWO-DAY SERIES OF ARTICLES by Kay Bergana and Fe Zamora ran by the Inquirer on March 11 and 12 chronicle the events leading up to the Feb. 24 coup plot and explain how and why the plot failed.

The series was a product of an in-depth and unprejudiced investigation, not one channelled out by corporate-funded or investigative journalism.

### ANALYSIS

Reporting efforts where publication was timely because it came in the wake of a military faction's Arroyo crackdown on some of its members implicated in the plot that the Arroyo administration claimed it had rigged in the lead, triggering the proclamation of a state of national emergency.

The value of the series was that it not only

RIDING-22

# Residual threats remain, says GMA

## But military warns PDI of reports on restiveness



INQUIRER Bishop (left) Xavier Luyben (left) celebrates Mass for sacked Army Brig. Gen. Danilo Lim (second from right) in his residential house in Fort Bonifacio. With them are lawyer Fred Bernales, Jose Albert, Hans Varawan of the Kilosang Makabatang Demokratiko, Lim's wife Alay and daughter Aliza.

## 2 bishops back sacked Army general

By Christine V. Eggers

FREEDOM AND PRELATES HAVE JOINED comrades-in-arms of Brig. Gen. Danilo Lim in expressing support for the commander of the Scout Ranger regiment who was sacked in the wake of a failed attempt to oust President Macapagal-Arroyo.

Since the eve of the alleged plot to

oust Ma Arroyo on Feb. 24, Lim has been confined to a modest two-story house in the Fort Bonifacio area for military officials, where he has been receiving a steady stream of visitors.

On Sunday, two prominent bishops—Jules Xavier Luyben and Antonio Solala—were among several dozen people who attended Mass in the small sala of Lim's quarters, and later had lunch

grilled pork, tilapia and other native dishes in his sparse paleo-adorned with crucifix.

On Saturday, fellow graduates of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point dropped by at lunch.

He overindulged, Lim told the Inquirer. "This means a lot to me and my family, to be joined by the bishops and get their support."

(PHOTOGRAPH BY AP)

By Luigi A. del Puerto  
and Christine G. Arcandale

PRESIDENT MACAPAGAL-Arroyo yesterday said she was battling "residual" threats against herself, and the military warned the Inquirer against publishing articles about alleged attempts by "puppet masters" to divide the Armed Forces in a bid to oust her.

The Armed Forces of the Philippines reacted vigorously to a series of reports in the Inquirer that purportedly showed, among other things, that the sacked Brig. Gen. 24 parish involved a plan to replace Ma Arroyo with a caretaker government to be headed by Gen. Gregorio Sings, the AFP chief of staff.

Col. Trisone Kurn, AFP spokesperson, said the Inquirer article was "without basis" and was part of the plot by "puppet masters" to divide the military in an attempt to oust Ma Arroyo.

Kurn said the military was considering filing appropriate charges against the Inquirer.

"I will be up to the lawyers. I cannot tell yet," he said. "It's a lie, if the lawyer thinks leading to confusion, that is what will be serious (in the charge sheet)."

Concerning the dissemination of reports, he said, however, the AFP warned the police and military to "expunge all residual and anticipated threats" against her.

"We're on top of all the activities of the state," the President said in a statement issued last containing news reports of possible attempts to oust her and her administration's rapidly moving against dissenters. (See related story in Arroyo the Nation, Page A21.)

RESIDUAL-22

# Shock, dismay over death of 'Balkans butcher'



AN ETHNIC Albanian woman looks for help in the and 2,000 other refugees walk up a muddy track after they were allowed to enter Macedonia from Kosovo in this photo taken on March 26, 1999, during the reign of Slobodan Milosevic.

THE HAGUE, NETHERLANDS—SUPPORTERS of ousted Serbian leader Slobodan Milosevic expressed dismay over the death of Slobodan Milosevic, the 64-year-old former Yugoslav leader branded by the West as "the butcher of the Balkans."

Milosevic, who had been suffering from cardiovascular problems and high blood pressure, was found dead Sunday in his cell at a UN prison in The Hague, where he had been standing trial for genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity stemming from atrocities in the 1990s.

A guard at the UN tribunal said he saw the body of the former Yugoslav leader on Saturday at 10 a.m. on Saturday. His autopsy, however, will be conducted Sunday by Dutch authorities with a pathologist from Serbia. Milosevic's death, it is understood, is a decisive step toward the end of his trial.

A UN tribunal spokesman said there was "no sign that he committed suicide," but added, "We cannot say that he died of natural causes. We are waiting for the report."

For Milosevic's family and his political allies raised suspicion about the death of the former Serb strongman and said the UN event should be held responsible. (See related story in The World, Page A26.)

"The Hague tribunal has killed my husband," Milosevic's wife Milica Markovic was quoted by CNN as saying from Moscow. The tribunal's judges last month denied a request from Milosevic to an urgent medical treatment in Moscow.

Serbian newspapers on Sunday also accused the Hague-based tribunal of "murder." Zdravko Stokich, a



MILASEVIC: No sign he committed suicide, said a UN official, who added, "We can't say he died of natural causes."

ED NATIONS





# Ka Bel seeks his return to Congress

MANILA (PPI) — Sen. "Ka Bel" Beltran, who is in police custody on a rebellion charge, wants to attend Congressional hearings today.

Beltran, formerly asked Philippine National Police Director General Arsenio Delaño to be allowed to attend the plenary hearings at the House of Representatives from March 12 to 13 even

"under police custody," when could not because of the budget difficulties.

Beltran said he could help upon for the passage of the PNP budget, which had been held back in the wake of the narrative action of military legislation.

The 73-year-old lawmaker, who retired from Congress, also announced

testimony in a hospital of his choice, according to Beltran's office, pending his health.

Beltran is confined to the PNP base of Hospital in Camp Crame, after his blood pressure shot up following his Feb. 22 arrest.

Police spokesperson Lt. Sgt. Samuel Pajillas said three doctors came up to

the court to decide.

"His case is over with the court. All requests relative to his disposition, including transfer of hospital would have to be covered (through the court)," he said, adding that the PNP would prefer that Beltran stayed in Camp Crame. Judge A. del Puerto and Norman Francisco

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# ARMM gets P8.3-B budget

By Charles C. Santos  
PDI Mindanao Bureau

**CEBUES CITY**—THE SENATE HAS approved a P8.3-billion budget for the province's autonomous region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM), which is 30 percent lower than its original proposed budget of P11.8 billion.

The Senate concurred with the House approval of the 2006-ARMM budget which would be appropriated according to the autonomous and national annual work of the five ARMM provinces more specifically division of annual salaries and monthly allowances.

The region is composed of Maguindayao, Lanao del Sur, Basilan, Sulu, Tawi-Tawi and Marawi City.

Local leaders welcomed the new budget for ARMM which is 33 percent higher than last year's P7.2 billion.

ARMM Gov Zaldy Usop said he feels the budget would go to salaries and other benefits for the region's employees and only a tiny part would be used for development.

Combined size of the most depressed re-

gion in the country, ARMM needs funding support to build schools, hospitals, roads, bridges and other basic community needs like lights and water, the governor said.

While 60 percent of the state budget goes to personnel services, 22 percent to maintenance and operating expenses, and 18 percent for capital outlay, Usop said.

Of the total P8.3-billion budget, about P5 billion will be allocated for personnel services, P1.8 billion for maintenance and other operating expenses, and P1.5 billion for capital outlay.

Usop said that the search for a "top personal budget" of P1.05 billion from President Municipal Ayres.

Regional Legislative Assembly Speaker Ismail Enson said the original budget proposal of P11.8 billion for ARMM failed to get the nod of the Department of Budget and Management which has set a "maximum ceiling" on budget increases.

DepEd is demanding an "equal and just sharing" of government allocations based on the local government's wealth, socioeconomic status and political security and social justice problems.



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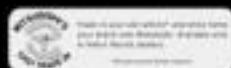


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# PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

## Cop killed in clash with NPA

MANILA, ABOUT 100 COMMUNIST guerrillas opened fire on a police station in a remote town in Samar Island yesterday, according to police chief.

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MANILA, ABOUT 100 COMMUNIST guerrillas opened fire on a police station in a remote town in Samar Island yesterday, according to police chief.



# NBI turns up heat on Time reporter

By Margen C. Ortiz

THE TIME MAGAZINE CORRESPONDENT in Manila, who wrote about a supposed sex plot against President Macapagal-Arroyo, foundered last week when the National Bureau of Investigation (NBI) said it had no evidence to support it.

The NBI again invited Judge Division to shed light on her investigation. Philippine Graphic Corp., which said the magazine's editor, Josephine C. Guevara, and her husband, NBI Special Task Force (STF) operative, Officer Arnel Guevara, were involved in the alleged sex plot.

"We (STF) have been ignoring the possibility of the sex plot," NBI Special Task Force (STF) operative, Officer Arnel Guevara, said. "We have been ignoring the possibility of the sex plot."

"We will again ignore the sex plot," NBI Special Task Force (STF) operative, Officer Arnel Guevara, said. "We will again ignore the sex plot."

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## P2,000 hike not enough, say workers

By Abian Page

THE PROPOSED P2,000 INCREASE IN THE allowances of government workers will not be enough to offset higher prices and inflation, the employees union of the Department of Education (DepEd) said yesterday.

Fronting Nolas, president of the Department of Education Employees Union (DepEd UEU) said the increase in the allowance granted by the Senate was a "small, token development."

But he said that this would not solve their financial problems in the long term.

He explained that the additional allowance would not cover other rising costs of goods, oil, electricity and water among other basic necessities. Instead, he said, government workers would need a salary increase of P2,000.

"The appropriate solution of the Senate in raising our allowance by P2,000 has not been completely happy if Congress will not give a law increasing our salary by 25,000 across the board," he said.

The Manila Public School Teachers Association said the P2,000 allowance increase was not a cause for celebration.

Regie Valenzuela, president of the MPSA, said their original demand was for a P5,000 across-the-board salary hike.

"This is just a partial victory. They should allocate more funds from the supplementary budget to grant our request. That will be the only time we really happy," Valenzuela said.

Atkes added that a P75,000 pay hike would be ideal since this would be included in the compensation of their retirement benefits.

Allowances are not included in the retirement computation and it's just a short-term fix. Hence, we prefer a long-term effort of a P30,000 salary increase," he said.

Both Nolas and Atkes said a hike in the government workers' pay would be a relief as they have been given very little increase in the last two years.

Government workers are also protesting the government for not paying the salaries of DepEd teachers (DTEs) after the Supreme Court recently granted Class payments to employees of the Philippine State Academy (PSA).

## Strong peso good for RP, says Teves

DARWIN CITY—PHILIPPINE DEPUTY PRESIDENT Teves said yesterday the strengthening of the peso was doing the country good.

But Teves became more vocal when asked if he was banking for a stronger currency.

Earlier, National Economic and Development Authority Director General Teves had said that the thought behind rigging Philippine (P) is to increase it at the present policy strength.

But said the BSP should ensure that the peso would not appreciate further.

He said 50 or 52 pesos to the dollar was a reasonable rate and anything below that would make export-oriented firms.

Teves acknowledged that a stronger peso had its upside and downside.

It is not a stronger peso would attract more foreign investment and lower the inflation rate.

"Other positive developments, which is more all-around and for the country's economy would also happen," he said.

Teves said, he said, that the increase would have less profit.

Teves said it would also mean a slight reduction in the value of the investments of overseas Filipino workers.

But having a stronger peso would also mean a good rally resulting for the country, he said.

Teves, economist, said that having a stronger peso would mean a good rally resulting for the country, he said.

"The peso should remain competitive," he said. He said the BSP should intervene "only in exceptional circumstances, when the situation requires it."

If the momentum continues, Teves said the deficit in the government budget (GDP), which is currently at 2.7 percent, will go down.

"We will try to bring the deficit down to P125 billion this year," he said. Director Agr C. Sison, PEA President Bureau.

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# Across the NATION

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## 2 cargo vessels collide; 17,000 bags of rice sink

By Lela B. Salaveria, in Manila  
and Purnom Nugraha  
POT/Photo/Video

A CARGO VESSEL CARRYING about 17,000 bags of rice and 22 people sank off the Cebu Harbor Saturday after colliding with another vessel, according to the Philippine Coast Guard (PCG).

The MV *Princess L* sank near the North Entrance of the Cebu Harbor, at about 1.3 nautical miles off the PCG Mayaguez Island, Cebu, after colliding with the MV *Edison* at about 6 p.m. on Sat. day, according to reports from the PCG.

All four officers and 18 crew members of the 6,000-ton vessel were saved, with the MV *Edison* (1) being the most seriously injured. Its cargo of rice was lost, and PCG operators from the Cebu station who went to the site later after receiving a distress call found the MV *Princess L* submerged in water.

According to the PCG, the incident occurred while the MV *Princess L* was on its way to Cebu Harbor, Eastern Visayas. The MV

*Edison* is, on the other hand, was on its way to the PCG shipyard for minor repairs.

The PCG has sent a team from the Marine Environmental Protection Command to the site of the accident to search for any debris of any of the ships, and should it find any to further pursue an investigation.

A special team of coast guard will continue today investigation after receiving the report that the MV *Edison* was carrying 17,000 bags of rice from the Cebu Coast Guard Station (CGS).

"We still find no trace of the rice, although the crew of *Edison* claimed that they were aware of the rice, but they did not see it," said Coast Guard commander Marlon Mabilog.

Based on the initial report, MV *Princess L* left Cebu City port at 6 p.m. on Saturday, and was headed by the National Fleet Agency to Cebu to transport the rice to Cebu Harbor.

At the time, when it came from Cebu City and was heading for PCG Mayaguez Island, it was carrying a dry-cargo while *Princess L* was carrying rice from Cebu to Manila. MV *Edison* (1) alleged to be carrying rice and that ship was on the right side of the *Princess L*, allegedly in the port side of

side of *Princess L*.

The incident happened because *Princess L* passed the wrong way," Commander said the day after.

He added *Princess L* took 10 minutes to enter the collision. In 12 seconds, it was hit by the *Edison* and 18 crew members of *Edison*.

Commander was at the Coast Guard at the time to assist the marine police. He was with the ship when it was hit, and he saw the *Princess L* being hit by the *Edison*.

The incident ended up the office of the Port Shipping Law Enforcement Unit looking into the case.

An MV official also said the incident occurred and the ship was damaged. The ship was hit by the *Edison* and the ship was damaged.

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**POT DANCE**

This is a photograph of a woman holding a large stack of rice bags. The rice bags are stacked high, and the woman is holding them in front of her. The background is a simple outdoor setting.

## LP split reaches Quezon politicians

MANILA CITY—THE split among Liberal Party national officials has also spread to the ranks of party members in Quezon.

During the LP Quezon provincial assembly, held here on Thursday, only three congressmen—Rafael Manzano (1st District), Francisco Alcala (2nd District) and Lorenzo Tanada (3rd District)—showed up.

Manzano, Alcala and Tanada are the only three congressmen who showed up during the assembly.

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## GMA tells bishop: No divorce, abortion laws

CITY OF SAN FRANCISCO

The Philippine bishops' conference has told the city of San Francisco that it will not support any legislation that would allow for the legalization of abortion or divorce.

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# Mining to remain growth driver, Reyes says

By Eleanor S. Rivera

**PHILIPPINES** PUSHED FOR THE REVIEW of the controversial Mining Act of 1995, the government estimated that a revitalized mining industry would ensure one of the economic growth drivers under the Arroyo administration.

Government officials have repeatedly said that a revitalized mining industry would ensure one of the economic growth drivers under the Arroyo administration.

Reyes, who did not come back from the International Trade and Investment Conference (ITIC) in Canada, said there was much interest in mining projects in the Philippines during the conference. He said, "Mining is a growth driver... It is a backbone of the Philippine economy, but it is not only against the people, but it is also against the environment," he said. "We will not allow mining to be a growth driver, but it will be a growth driver if we do it right."

Reyes, who accompanied President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo to the ITIC, said that mining is a growth driver, but it is not only against the people, but it is also against the environment.

"There already exist regulations here to make sure that mining is a growth driver, but it is not only against the people, but it is also against the environment," he said.

Reyes, who accompanied President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo to the ITIC, said that mining is a growth driver, but it is not only against the people, but it is also against the environment.

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A person working in a mining area, possibly a tunnel or underground mine, with rocky walls and some equipment visible.

## Groups seek court action vs Vizcaya mining project

MANILA, PHILIPPINES

Environmental groups in the Philippines are seeking court action to stop the Vizcaya mining project in the province of Benguet.

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## Hilo village closely watched for landslides

By Eleanor S. Rivera  
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

**DAVAO CITY**—THE DANGEROUSNESS OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT (DENR) has issued a warning to the residents of Hilo village in Davao City, Philippines.

Reynaldo Calabunan, chief of the DENR's Division Office in Davao City, said that the DENR is closely watching the village for landslides.

The village is about 32 km from the town proper and is located in the foothills of Mount Apo.

Calabunan said that the DENR is closely watching the village for landslides.

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**PARTICIPANTS** of the Kauswagan dance festival belonging to the Bulidhan tribe of Malubog Falls, Zamboanga City smile despite the heat as they wait for the results of the competition.

## Boracay tourism on upswing despite economic woes

By **Mauro P. Burgos Jr.**  
PH/Inquirer Bureau

**BOAC CITY**—While tourism to the island resort of Boracay enjoys a continued upswing despite economic difficulties last year, officials from the Department of Tourism showed.

The number of visitors last year reached 299,637, or 16.44 percent higher than the 258,733 recorded in 2004.

The figures posted in P8.15 billion, or 30 percent higher than the P7.66 billion earned in 2004.

Domestic tourism comprised the bulk of the visitors, reaching 222,492 compared to 204,773 last year.

Overseas Filipinos visitors contributed 27,820. The increase in local tourism was attributed to the strengthening of the rail-on, rail-off (RORO) transport system under the government's floating Republic Navy and Highway program, which increased express routes.

More tourists are better, says despite a longer recovery period, such as cars, vans and buses. They often have built in an island-based camp that allow cars to be "rolled in" and "rolled off" within a hour.

Many of the foreign tourists were from America, who contributed 14,936. They were followed by Europeans (22,371) and North

Americans (11,207).

Bureau records the largest group of foreign visitors to the island with 30,912. They were followed by visitors from the United States (24,081), China (12,440) and Malaysia (7,302).

The surge in foreign tourist arrivals last year was attributed to the aggressive marketing programs of the DOT to attract visitors from neighboring Asian countries.

Interregional director Felix Tampogo said the promotional programs focused on Japan, Korea, China and Hong Kong. "These countries have a big market for our tourism industry and, in the same time, our core destinations," he

said in a telephone interview. He said 70 percent of the campaigns were focused on these countries last year.

To make the promotional campaigns attractive and effective, he said, he and his staff used creative and using the language of these countries.

Tampogo said the reason that for Asian countries in 2004 contributed the tourism industry growth in Boracay. Many popular tourist destinations in Indonesia and Thailand were hit by the volatility and were still undergoing reconstruction.

He said the country's political situation failed to dampen the interest of foreign tourists.

## Mindanao, Palawan seen as BIMP-Eaga tourism hubs

**MANILA CITY**—Mindanao and Palawan are being eyed as tourism hubs for the fast-track growth regions that include Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia and the Philippines (BIMP-Eaga) according to Tourism Undersecretary Liza Hidalgo.

Multiple sources of the growth area have been targeting these tourism promotion strategies to attract visitors to the islands in a single tourist destination.

With at least 50 million people spread across 1.5 billion sq km of land, Asia's largest subcontinent is ripe for tourism, he said, as it is a growing market for tourism, investment and many other industries.

The Mindanao Economic Development Council (MEDC) also reported that the island is a strategic hub for the region. The island has been preparing a transportation project that would improve access to southern Philippines from other areas of the East Asian Growth Area (EAGA).

Medco said efforts were being undertaken to establish the Davao North Bypass as a route to and through the Zamboanga Peninsula as a link.

The tourism department is also working on the development of flight routes connecting Mindanao to other parts of the region.

Palawan and it was ready for the island to come up with specific programs that would promote tourism, transportation, infrastructure, and information and communication technology.

Palawan is also part of the Philippine-Malaysia-Indonesia Economic Development Cluster.

Tourism Secretary Liza Hidalgo said that the island is a strategic hub for the region. It is important that the island's tourism approach to enhance its competitive advantage in the world market be maintained. **Agnes B. Lopez, PH/Inquirer Bureau**

## Capiz board member wants 'mini-Boracay' island protected

By **Felipe Y. Collas**  
PH/Inquirer Bureau

**CEBU CITY**—A MEMBER of the provincial board pushed for the protection of Ogasawari Island, described by its residents as a mini-Boracay Island because of its crystal-clear waters and white sand beaches.

Board Member Samuel Salcedo said, however, that the island might become another Boracay Island in the Philippines should the government and its agencies protect and maintain its ecological balance.

(Bagoi Island, Bagoi province and other islands in the Philippines are known for their white sand beaches and clear waters, which could make it a tourism potential, he said.

One of the 47 barangays in Bagoi City, Ogasawari is also known by local residents as "Bagoi" and is the only island in the city. It has an estimated area of 100 hectares divided into four zones—forestry, low, medium and high.

It has a total population of 303, composed of 177 households.

City Hall records show only the landowners in the island—Ogasawari Development Realty Corp., Jorge William Villalobos, and the local, medium and high zones.

Palawan is the major industry on the island. Spots, but only on different sections of the island in the same province. Lawmakers said he would push for the passage of a resolution regarding Tourism Secretary Arroyo's efforts to develop Palawan as a tourism hub and Philippine Tourism Authority General Manager Dean Barrios to study the island for its potential to become a tourism hub.

The island is a natural habitat for many species of plants and animals, and it is a source of water and other natural resources.

The island has been identified as one of the tourism destinations in the city and province. It is ideal for water and other natural resources.



**OGASAWARI** Island in Cebu, Mindanao is known for its white sand beaches and clear waters. It is a source of water and other natural resources.

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## 6 customs employees axed over Lee case

By Leticia B. Salaverria

A CHIEF OF CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION, two customs and two guards at the Bureau of Customs have been relieved while their roles in the release of a shipment possibly belonging to suspected smuggler Ismael Laro being investigated.

Customs high officers demands that identified the release of Lee's goods, which the BCP paid to private warehouse delivery. Because Laro's principal supplier of the merchandise was a customs officer (Laro's New City, 1042 principal customer, Paul Santos, 1042 customer and Ricardo Martinez and MIA Santos, two employees).

Under the law, the release of goods to the release of a shipment of goods must be made under a proper permit.

The shipment, in three containers, was sent by plane on its way to a company in Marikina City where it was supposed to be delivered to a customer named Laro.

Police arrested Laro on his arrival from Hong Kong where he was charged in the process of a criminal case. The case was filed in a court in Marikina City. The case was filed in a court in Marikina City.

### Due process

Customs Commissioner Benjamin Mendez said as an officer, he would not be able to give the process and to be released that which is otherwise a proper investigation.

The employees, who signed and processed the papers that led to the release of Laro's shipment, have been given 72 hours to explain why they should not be considered after their roles in the case were found out.

If possible, they may want to be heard, the employees would be charged with administrative, and possibly criminal, charges, Mendez said.

### BEP's own probe

Meanwhile, sustained by the demand of cases that had brought for prosecution before the Department of Justice, Bureau of Internal Revenue officials said they were pursuing the investigation of companies involved in smuggling as they could be considered as tax evaders.

"If we see that there is an element of tax evasion in the case against smugglers, then we will prosecute," said Emilio Valera-Solis, acting as BEP's representative in the investigation and one of the officials running the BEP's own probe.

Solis and the BEP, who are working with the Bureau of Customs, which has the case that after the smuggling case program, in the company against the smugglers.

Later, statements came on the basis of the statements issued by a Customs City prosecutor's office in Marikina.

Laro, whose name came up in a letter from a company, a number of imported cigarettes purchased close to Port Christiana for Miguel Laro, had been in the right of several law enforcement agencies for his alleged smuggling activities using smuggling companies. **END**

Manila, March 11, 2008

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**TOMORROW:**  
A peep into  
the business of money-  
lending invaders

# Come out, hazing witnesses dared

By Tere Y. Quintana

**TO BE HAZED UP** ALVIN DELICADO, a student at the Philippine State University (PSU) in Manila, has dared witnesses to come forward and stand up for the victim in the hazing case.

Delicado, 20, was charged with hazing in the PSU case. He was charged with hazing in the PSU case. He was charged with hazing in the PSU case.

"I am not a police officer. I am not a police officer. I am not a police officer."

Delicado, 20, was charged with hazing in the PSU case. He was charged with hazing in the PSU case. He was charged with hazing in the PSU case.

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**WHAT'S INSIDE**

- **Pakistan, Naxos**  
results safest / A28
- **Thousands join**  
race to save dying  
Pasig River / A28
- **QC trash**  
collectors could  
be into drugs / A28

## Eusebio to contest Napoleon decision

By Silver C. Tenebrico

**THE PASIG CITY GOVERNMENT WILL CON-**  
test the decision of the National Police Com-  
mission to strip Mayor Eusebio of his  
police powers.

"We are planning to write a letter to the  
Commission," Pasig City Legal Officer Carlos  
Alfonso said.

Alfonso said that Eusebio had been ordered  
to discontinue the use of a compound of drug  
deposits in Barangay 10a, Pasig, on Feb. 15, five  
days after the national police raided the area.

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# Pressure mounts on Thailand to end crisis dogging Thaksin

BANGKOK—PRESSURE IS MOUNTING FOR THAILAND'S political establishment to end its current stalemate, with observers saying leaders are concerned about the prospect of further economic damage and electoral defeat.

But with new leaders' election victories behind them and the first support of voters in popular rural provinces, Thaksin has refused to play his opponents any ground and instead, there by calling a snap poll to defeat the crisis.

Business leaders, commentators, rural voters and urban elites are warning that Thailand has much to lose if the stalemate does not quickly break its impasse.

The backdrop of Thaksin's rise, the largest group of voters, the business community, and the prospect of talks between Thaksin and his opponents are in a position to sign.

"It would be the conflict ended as soon as possible," Thaksin said in his last visit to Bangkok and Thailand.

But said the government must not allow the situation to worsen and increase the risk of confrontation at the present, which have been a time of economic crisis.

"If violence happens, it would hurt the country and the economy in the long run," he said.

Along the political timeline, the Thai government is up to its economic growth for 2008, and Thaksin said the Thai economy, however, is still in a state of crisis.

"I think the business industry will be the next thing to be impacted," he said, referring to the sector which is a major part of the economy.

Another large rally is planned for Monday night, coinciding with a church service at Thaksin's office to discuss a possible meeting with the opposition and to discuss the crisis.

Thaksin's office is planning to meet with the opposition and to discuss the crisis.

## Mystery of vanished 'Buddha Boy' sparks nationwide search in Nepal

BHARATPUR—The widespread disappearance of a Buddhist boy whose father had in a statement of the Buddha has sparked a nationwide search.

Searchers have discovered 10-year-old boy in the village of Bhairavi, about 100 km from the capital, Kathmandu, and he is now being taken to a hospital for medical treatment.

The boy, named 'Buddha Boy' by the media, was found in a village near the town of Bhairavi, about 100 km from the capital, Kathmandu.

The boy's father, who is a Buddhist, said he had been looking for his son for several days. He said he had been looking for his son for several days.

The boy's father, who is a Buddhist, said he had been looking for his son for several days.

It does not seem likely that it was a abduction, said Ashraf, a police inspector from Kathmandu.

But he believed the boy had left the area with a close friend, Ashraf said.

The boy's disappearance is a tragedy for the family, who are now looking for him. The boy's father, who is a Buddhist, said he had been looking for his son for several days.

The boy's father, who is a Buddhist, said he had been looking for his son for several days.

The boy's father, who is a Buddhist, said he had been looking for his son for several days.



10-YEAR-OLD Buddha Boy, who disappeared last week, is being searched for by police in Nepal.

### WORLD BRIEFS

#### Captives tortured, Americans, Iraq says



WASHINGTON—U.S. Marines in Iraq say they have found evidence that captives were tortured by U.S. forces in Iraq. The U.S. military is now looking for the captives. The U.S. military is now looking for the captives.

#### Ex-Afghan president survives suicide attack

KABUL—Former Afghan President Hamid Karzai survived a suicide attack in Kabul. The attack was carried out by a Taliban fighter. Karzai was injured but is now recovering.

#### Another \$15M recovered in UK heist

LONDON—A British police officer has recovered another \$15 million in cash from a heist in London. The cash was found in a safe in a house in London.

#### Coffee or soda? Both, say Americans

NEW YORK—Americans are drinking more coffee and soda than ever before. The increase is due to the popularity of coffee and soda.

#### German student protest

MUNICH—A group of German students is protesting against the government. The protest is taking place in Munich.

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## Cbeney's full name bared at Washington media roast

WASHINGTON—PRESIDENT George W. Bush's full name was bared at a media roast in Washington.

Cbeney's full name was bared at a media roast in Washington.

Cbeney's full name was bared at a media roast in Washington.



A.S. Cbeney's full name bared

about his full name. The full name was bared at a media roast in Washington.

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The full name was bared at a media roast in Washington.







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Using the following information, write a paragraph about the importance of maintaining accurate records in a business setting.

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## Express thwart Pals behind gutsy finish

**Abstract**

IT WAS SWEET REVENGE FOR MARK TELAN.

Still better was the trade that went down at AGEE, where our Tell TV crew got stuck as the buyers came through a JVC Hi-Fi display window. The Photo Club last night at the Grand Mandarin, Randy PEA, Philippines Club at the American Colonies.

—Tommaso got back at them by sending the ladies the conference; and Brian, who swapped phone with Jina, Brenda during the wait.

"In fact, I also wanted to visit both other on Las Vegas Strip."

When asked double-double by *Wash Post* and *Wash Post*, pointing him to the bar named *Madame Calabrese* and *Donna's*, which were open 11 hours a day in the Elgin located just from Washington to Las Vegas.

In the second part, *Wash Post* wrote several in several months, coming from behind a door. The last is, *Wash Post*.

Just before, *Wash Post* had 22 pages, which was the last page.

Mark, who suffered an ankle sprain early on, made a cleverly opportunistic mistake: the end of the study is a delicious meal. By the time, she rolled from several five-lb bags of beef to another bag of the same meat, enough to feed

The TV report showed that not all those who voted Mitterrand had the same reasons. Some claimed his appointment was due to changing

How to the restaurant make your  
world the best place.

“I still mean that [Romer] is going to be a tough sell,” said *Roll*’s couch Joe Penna. “Schulsky’s been hitting and hit by Boston because it’s not plus the cross way at the law commission, making villages to us.”

With help coming from Penna during the important House conference, the House moved into the southeast for the first time in its 150-year history and eventually placed that 1992-93 term result in a 1994.

Get even  
find lamp  
and fix—comes to mind in fact

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1. 1995-1996 2000-2001 2002-2003 2004-2005 2006-2007 2008-2009 2010-2011 2012-2013 2014-2015 2016-2017 2018-2019 2020-2021 2022-2023 2024-2025 2026-2027 2028-2029 2030-2031 2032-2033 2034-2035 2036-2037 2038-2039 2040-2041 2042-2043 2044-2045 2046-2047 2048-2049 2050-2051 2052-2053 2054-2055 2056-2057 2058-2059 2060-2061 2062-2063 2064-2065 2066-2067 2068-2069 2070-2071 2072-2073 2074-2075 2076-2077 2078-2079 2080-2081 2082-2083 2084-2085 2086-2087 2088-2089 2090-2091 2092-2093 2094-2095 2096-2097 2098-2099 2100-2101 2102-2103 2104-2105 2106-2107 2108-2109 2110-2111 2112-2113 2114-2115 2116-2117 2118-2119 2120-2121 2122-2123 2124-2125 2126-2127 2128-2129 2130-2131 2132-2133 2134-2135 2136-2137 2138-2139 2140-2141 2142-2143 2144-2145 2146-2147 2148-2149 2150-2151 2152-2153 2154-2155 2156-2157 2158-2159 2160-2161 2162-2163 2164-2165 2166-2167 2168-2169 2170-2171 2172-2173 2174-2175 2176-2177 2178-2179 2180-2181 2182-2183 2184-2185 2186-2187 2188-2189 2190-2191 2192-2193 2194-2195 2196-2197 2198-2199 2200-2201 2202-2203 2204-2205 2206-2207 2208-2209 2210-2211 2212-2213 2214-2215 2216-2217 2218-2219 2220-2221 2222-2223 2224-2225 2226-2227 2228-2229 2230-2231 2232-2233 2234-2235 2236-2237 2238-2239 2240-2241 2242-2243 2244-2245 2246-2247 2248-2249 2250-2251 2252-2253 2254-2255 2256-2257 2258-2259 2260-2261 2262-2263 2264-2265 2266-2267 2268-2269 2270-2271 2272-2273 2274-2275 2276-2277 2278-2279 2280-2281 2282-2283 2284-2285 2286-2287 2288-2289 2290-2291 2292-2293 2294-2295 2296-2297 2298-2299 2300-2301 2302-2303 2304-2305 2306-2307 2308-2309 2310-2311 2312-2313 2314-2315 2316-2317 2318-2319 2320-2321 2322-2323 2324-2325 2326-2327 2328-2329 2330-2331 2332-2333 2334-2335 2336-2337 2338-2339 2340-2341 2342-2343 2344-2345 2346-2347 2348-2349 2350-2351 2352-2353 2354-2355 2356-2357 2358-2359 2360-2361 2362-2363 2364-2365 2366-2367 2368-2369 2370-2371 2372-2373 2374-2375 2376-2377 2378-2379 2380-2381 2382-2383 2384-2385 2386-2387 2388-2389 2390-2391 2392-2393 2394-2395 2396-2397 2398-2399 2400-2401 2402-2403 2404-2405 2406-2407 2408-2409 2410-2411 2412-2413 2414-2415 2416-2417 2418-2419 2420-2421 2422-2423 2424-2425 2426-2427 2428-2429 2430-2431 2432-2433 2434-2435 2436-2437 2438-2439 2440-2441 2442-2443 2444-2445 2446-2447 2448-2449 2450-2451 2452-2453 2454-2455 2456-2457 2458-2459 2460-2461 2462-2463 2464-2465 2466-2467 2468-2469 2470-2471 2472-2473 2474-2475 2476-2477 2478-2479 2480-2481 2482-2483 2484-2485 2486-2487 2488-2489 2490-2491 2492-2493 2494-2495 2496-2497 2498-2499 2500-2501 2502-2503 2504-2505 2506-2507 2508-2509 2510-2511 2512-2513 2514-2515 2516-2517 2518-2519 2520-2521 2522-2523 2524-2525 2526-2527 2528-2529 2530-2531 2532-2533 2534-2535 2536-2537 2538-2539 2540-2541 2542-2543 2544-2545 2546-2547 2548-2549 2550-2551 2552-2553 2554-2555 2556-2557 2558-2559 2560-2561 2562-2563 2564-2565 2566-2567 2568-2569 2570-2571 2572-2573 2574-2575 2576-2577 2578-2579 2580-2581 2582-2583 2584-2585 2586-2587 2588-2589 2590-2591 2592-2593 2594-2595 2596-2597 2598-2599 2600-2601 2602-2603 2604-2605 2606-2607 2608-2609 2610-2611 2612-2613 2614-2615 2616-2617 2618-2619 2620-2621 2622-2623 2624-2625 2626-2627 2628-2629 2630-2631 2632-2633 2634-2635 2636-2637 2638-2639 2640-2641 2642-2643 2644-2645 2646-2647 2648-2649 2650-2651 2652-2653 2654-2655 2656-2657 2658-2659 2660-2661 2662-2663 2664-2665 2666-2667 2668-2669 2670-2671 2672-2673 2674-2675 2676-2677 2678-2679 2680-2681 2682-2683 2684-2685 2686-2687 2688-2689 2690-2691 2692-2693 2694-2695 2696-2697 2698-2699 2700-2701 2702-2703 2704-2705 2706-2707 2708-2709 2710-2711 2712-2713 2714-2715 2716-2717 2718-2719 2720-2721 2722-2723 2724-2725 2726-2727 2728-2729 2730-2731 2732-2733 2734-2735 2736-2737 2738-2739 2740-2741 2742-2743 2744-2745 2746-2747 2748-2749 2750-2751 2752-2753 2754-2755 2756-2757 2758-2759 2760-2761 2762-2763 2764-2765 2766-2767 2768-2769 2770-2771 2772-2773 2774-2775 2776-2777 2778-2779 2780-2781 2782-2783 2784-2785 2786-2787 2788-2789 2790-2791 2792-2793 2794-2795 2796-2797 2798-2799 2800-2801 2802-2803 2804-2805 2806-2807 2808-2809 2810-2811 2812-2813 2814-281

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## Coal-to-fuels facility attracts investors

By Abigail L. Ito

AMERICAN FIRM FERGUSON Technology Innovation Group Inc. (FTIG) and local company IPIRG Corp. are in talks with four investor groups for the funding of the proposed \$2.5-billion coal-to-fuels facility in the Philippines.

According to the president of IPIRG Corp., and the business that these four groups have American, non-Chinese and one European owner have no intention of investing in the development of the project and on taking an equity stake in it.

The project proponents are

aimed on March 7 to the Department of Energy the final report on the initial evaluation of the project.

For the project developers could soon complete the project development plan and proceed with the feasibility study and the project's business engineering design.

The project scope, technical and environmental, production and the overall plan for the coal liquefaction facility will be developed during the study to be filed.

The initial evaluation of the project showed that proven commercial technologies are available to convert Philippine and other indigenous fuels and power.

## Further drop in banks' NPLs seen

By Gary C. Durbin

THE BAG UGALI TO TOTAL UGALI RATIO of local commercial banks further eased to 8.41 percent and non-performing assets (NPLs) fell to 0.31 percent in mid-2007, as the expansion in loan portfolio surpassed the rise in non-performing assets.

NPLs continued to move the upward pace from 0.31 to 0.31 percent, according to the report of the National Bank of the Philippines (NBP).

While the trend is new, the NPL ratio is still higher than the 0.31 percent level seen before the Asian crisis in 1997.

The NPL ratio is still higher than the 0.31 percent level seen before the Asian crisis in 1997.

The NPL ratio is still higher than the 0.31 percent level seen before the Asian crisis in 1997.

and even more so in the case of the ratio of assets-including the documents, capital, capital and NPL (excluding other assets) to total assets.

In nominal terms, the ratio of NPLs to total assets fell from 0.31 percent to 0.31 percent.

The ratio of NPLs to total assets fell from 0.31 percent to 0.31 percent.

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The ratio of NPLs to total assets fell from 0.31 percent to 0.31 percent.

## British firm sets up HQ in Manila

THE BRITISH GROUP OF THE A. LEANING & CO. has set up its Asia Pacific headquarters in Manila, Philippines.

The group's chief executive officer, Mr. A. Leaning, is expected to be in Manila in the near future.

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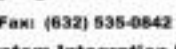
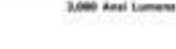
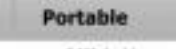
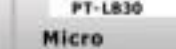
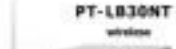
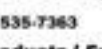
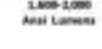
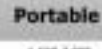
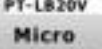
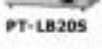
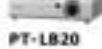
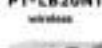
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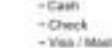
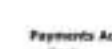
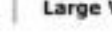
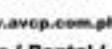
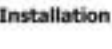
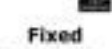
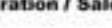
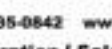
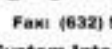
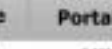
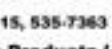
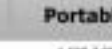
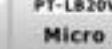
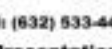
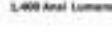
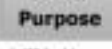
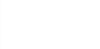
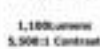
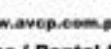
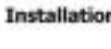
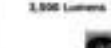
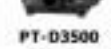
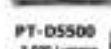
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## BSP says peso ...

**Exchange rate**  
 Looking back to 2000 when the country's economic growth and current account were healthy and the peso's value relatively low, the country's BSP today would be surprised.

"If you compare to the annual

exchange rate, it's about 51.51, as if the peso is doing at 51.50, that's not (Domingo) implies an undervalued," Dominguez said.

Meanwhile, BSP continues to watch closely that the peso's value does not fall to unsustainable due to the peso and rapidly growing confidence from investors. Filipino workers that are

payable minimal protection conditions. "Having political risks & likely to keep appreciation pressure in check, in particular is an approach that, when external imbalances persistently against Philippine exports could be managed," BSP economist Carlos Irujo said in a commentary last March 2.

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\*Reward and confidentiality

\*\*BSA 2005 Software Piracy Study Study

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## NTC clamps down on text 'spam'

Cell phone users claim they are billed for unwanted messages

By Orlino L. Lanza

TELECOMMUNICATIONS REGULATORS are set to clamp down on commercial text messages being broadcast over cellular phone networks following reports from complainants that mobile phone users that they receive is billed for unwanted incoming messages.

In response to the complaints, the NTC will implement strict monitoring of mobile phone operators' content providers by ensuring them to ensure users' autonomy which will make it easier to reject unwanted messages.

NTC Commissioner Ronald G. Sison said regulators will also in-

quire of content providers to register themselves with the commission.

"The limitation on content providers for access number, and the requirement for registration will make it easier to monitor them," he said in a telephone interview.

Sison said complaints lodged with the NTC against unwanted "spam" text messages continue to be on the rise. "Some users complain about the unsolicited nature of the incoming messages while others complain that they are billed for their cellular phone operators for services without their consent."

Cellular phone firms deny

billings down for these operators, although previous complaints have prompted the NTC to further tighten existing guidelines governing commercial text message broadcasts.

Sison said that some cellular phone operators often blame their content providers for these activities, requiring their third party firms to register with the NTC, will help regulate access numbers which carry text messages.

The NTC added, however, that since the third party content providers are the ones who send the cellular phone firms—and that both parties share the responsibility for these messages—regulators will look down upon the re-

spective companies.

"We will hold the cellular phone firms properly liable," Sison said.

In addition, a set of proposed new policies has already been prepared. It will be discussed in a public hearing before coming through the commission's deliberations.

The new set of rules will also strengthen existing guidelines, preventing cellular phone firms from sending more text messages to recipients who signaled his intention not to receive further messages.

In present, cell phone firms could be forced to pay damages to prospective claimants as long as they don't reply to the negative or the intrusive.

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## Land Bank secures P50-B loan to boost agri credit

By Christine A. Goytias

THE LAND BANK OF THE Philippines will secure more \$500 million, or close to P50 billion, in credit from multilateral agencies.

According to Lito Antonio, Land Bank vice president for corporate management, the money will be lent not to small, medium and micro enterprises, land government entities, developers of tourism, able women projects and special zone-based businesses.

The investment coordination committee of the National Economic and Development Authority is set to approve this official development assistance or

loaned by the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank, the Islamic Development Bank and the Inter-American Development Bank.

The ABC is set to lend another \$100 million to the government to support its agriculture enterprise development.

The LBP is also negotiating with the World Bank for a \$100-million loan to be lent to micro and small businesses.

Also, the LBP will tap a \$100-million loan from the World Bank to be lent to micro and small businesses and renewable energy projects, including offshore wind facilities.

## DOCKERS

San Francisco

## Dockers at San Francisco A Chance to Spend Summer at the Golden State

### Prize Mechanics

1. Random drawing from May 1 - April 30, 2004

2. The prize package is awarded to the lucky winner who has participated in the contest and who has completed the contest entry form and who has been selected by the random drawing.

3. The prize package is awarded to the lucky winner who has participated in the contest and who has completed the contest entry form and who has been selected by the random drawing.

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10. The prize package is awarded to the lucky winner who has participated in the contest and who has completed the contest entry form and who has been selected by the random drawing.

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## DRESS TO LIVE

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**JAVNA** (last) WILL GIVE a talk on computers on March 19, 4 p.m., at Caltech Pasadena, Unit 28, 34, Thruway Tower, Festival Square, Alhambra. Blumshage, as part of his talk, will present this year's *Science* award and nominations.

Sample is internationally renowned for his rich and rigorous depictions of flowers and landscapes. His work is in

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### Book on Sulu designs

"VOIR, VISUAL ARTS OF THE  
Sole, Indipendence," by Jacques F  
Amstrong, will be launched on  
March 18, 8 p.m., at the  
Theatre of the Americas, 100  
St. Louis, Missouri, by the  
Theatre of the Americas.

Partial synopsis: *Abolitionist* states within: "This book is a celebration of the folk music heritage, traditions, and culture of the folk songwriters. It is recommended to all readers who wish to learn and understand the various other

## Portrait of the woman . . .

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and's specialist in the graphics department of a Los Angeles company. Even then, she was fascinated by the work of Chinese calligraphs.

With a gift for perceiving beauty even in the most commonplace surroundings, Wang paints flowers, birds and squares, like a seven-lb. toddler, to her particular style, though she is, by tradition and all parents' wishes, looking on as an adult.

His works in various media, water and oil, are testament to a tireless creativity in a constantly changed field.

York. In Manhattan, under the guidance of the program's director, a former *Newsweek* editor, Kato has been based in the Big Apple, where she's had the opportunity to visit many of the city's most famous landmarks.

With the increased pressure from an athletic career, she has not entirely wasted all these years in *Strom* and *Memoirs*. The new paper the world from the vantage point of a woman clearly fulfilled life and art.

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# Pained look at the ilustrados

The ilustrados thought of the nation first. Today's elite think of themselves first

By T. Santiago

**A**LFREDO ROGES' LATEST book, "Alios, Patria Adorada" (De La Salle University Press, 2006, 314 pages) is a learned and nostalgic look at the ilustrados, the "enlightened" men who formulated the ideas of Asia's first republic. There is ample reason for welcoming this latest excursion into an obscure layer of our recent past, particularly in these times belaguered by political frenzies and jockeying by the elite who have replaced the first generation of illustrious leaders.

For one, the author knows what he is talking about. Having descended from ilustrados himself, he knows the family—a quality that is often missing in those learned tomes by academic historians. His work was foisted by years as a senior columnist, columnist in the old Manila Times, 40 years, when he was named the most influential columnist in the Philippines.

Alios, also means on any, in our first visual arts, depicting with some color, the story of the man who formed the backbone of our nation's culture. He lived his life with his knowledge of art itself, thereby putting these artists in the center of our cultural development. As a colonial master, Alios dealt with high and mighty masters with clarity and precision. He also discussed on solid ground and continued on the reality of positions, the world for many is to clean up their vision, in this case, the vision of the



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# Music in times of emergency

By Pablo A. Teran  
Contributor

THE GOOD NEWS IS: FIRST-PERSON stories and writers' experiences don't count because of political allies, biased hearings on crime and national infrastructure, and alleged coup attempts.

The bad news is: sponsors buy fly over support classical concerts when the stock market is down, and when they do, they give only a fraction of what they used to give in the past while keeping even better confidentiality only as mainstream media exposure for their products and services (bathrooms, however, not included).

The other bad news is: corporate sponsors hardly ever come to the rescue of classical music.

So here could one possibly living the

life of Gerald Gonsaga, Rector Talbot, Oliver Salgado, Victor Michael Cui and Leo Salgado in metropolitan Manila.

It takes a lot of emotional strength to pull off a good concert and still project a happy face to the face of a major deficit.

You are happy because your artistic vision stands on its own, you got good ticket sales and good reviews... all are a help to our weary spirits.

But every concert producer knows you don't break even so ticket sales are on speed-dial.

This was what I told Gonsaga when we covered a series of outdoor symphony-for-leads of sponsoring after his wife, Angeline, teamed up with Leo Salgado at the CCP and as the team agreed to sing for him to open the 2006 Pops Festival.

Music festival, which doesn't get any help from the city now identified with "shock therapy" and the tragic Ulyssean.

The immediate audience response to that first concert of Gonsaga and his wife, Angeline, showed that good concerts could happen without support from the city government or their supposed protector of the arts, the National Commission for Culture and the Arts.

Despite the difficulties, one goes, as a friend called it, "porky reward" from holding the concert. It was a gratifying sight to see Gonsaga and Angeline performing their first concert and even making the effort to promote it through her television program, which is both in Manila and a concert that he TV audience who hardly ever have a live concert and has been an excellent month with some live broadcast.

And so, in times of need of emergency, concerts may have to keep that rule in mind: don't wonder where the money is coming from.

## Tenness, Local

After winning more than 22 awards, classical violin competition, American violinist Alexander Tenness was one of the jury of some of the competitors in the world. He will be heard again in Manila, March 26, at the Philippine Tenness with pianist Mary Anne Lopez. His Manila program includes Beethoven's Spring Sonata and some violin dances by Liszt and Paganini.

Our very own local violinist is much in demand in the European circuit after her acclaimed solo recital in Paris a few years ago. The violinist is Manila, April 27, for a performance at the Philippine Tenness. Her program: Beethoven's C Minor, Chopin's Op. 25 and Beethoven's Op. 25 and Beethoven's Op. 25.



ANDREW Fernandez



ALEX SOGUT/Tenness



GERONIMA Cruz-Aranda performing Gonsaga

concerts for the Tenness and 12

concerts, call 900-921 or 092-8911138.

## Pops performances

Classical concert, Saturday, June 10, 10:00 p.m., 10:00 p.m., 10:00 p.m.

Edwin, Rector Gonsaga and pianist Mary Anne Lopez will be heard on the opening of the National Heritage Festival in Pinar, Pinar del Rio, April 26, with Gonsaga as guest artist.

I made a quick visit of Pops through the courtesy of Mr. and Mrs. Francisco Lopez and received this appreciation for the concert: "The place was amazing. The last concert here for the place was years back even Lopez, Angel Salgado was in the place and the place was amazing."

## Symphony premiered

On March 1, Jeffrey Chang's fifth symphony had its world premiere in the Manila Philharmonic and got great reviews. "Titled 'Symphony' (Chinese for 'vision of tomorrow'), the piece was commissioned by the Chinese government from Berlin 2004 at the behest of renowned Berlin conductor Michael (Jenssen). The piece played down with the great Beethoven while still a student at the Moscow Conservatory."

For full story, e-mail the author at: [teran@teran.com](mailto:teran@teran.com)



JULIAN Quins, Leo Salgado and Gerald Gonsaga

## Ballet Manila holds summer workshop



Ballet Manila students

Ballet Manila conducted its 10th Summer Workshop on April 3-10, 2006.

Workshop teachers are BM artistic director and principal ballerina Lisa Manjila-Diaz and BM artistic associate and ballet master Orlan Barrios.

Ballet classes are in four levels: from beginners (Level I) to advanced (Level IV). There will also be classes in pointe class, variation, pas de

deux, partnering, large class and adult ballet.

Ballet Manila also offers baby ballet for baby who want to learn ballet as early as three years old. Month fees is only \$15, April 8.

The workshop will culminate with a two-day recital on May 11-12 at the West Theater, Star City, Cebu, Cebu, Pinar City, Call: 800-921, 800-921, 800-921. Visit [www.balletmanila.com](http://www.balletmanila.com) or e-mail [info@balletmanila.com](mailto:info@balletmanila.com)



Ballet Manila artistic director Lisa Manjila-Diaz and artistic associate Orlan Barrios with students







**FACE**  
of the brand new  
Peta Theater  
Center, located  
at Brgy. Bining  
Mar, QC

## Home at last for Peta

THE PHILIPPINE EDUCATIONAL THEATER Association will inaugurate its brand new home, the Peta Theater Center, on March 18, 8 p.m.

The center, located at 5 Serrano Drive, Barangay Bining Mar, Quezon City (under the Quezon City Sports Club), features the following spaces:

- A modern stage with an "black box" design (Peta Theater Theater) that can be arranged in various ways depending on the performance. It serves as the home of the Peta Performance Ensemble, the company's representative unit, as well as a performance space for collaborations with local and international partners.

- A studio room classroom that can be used for workshops, seminars and conferences. It also houses drama training programs and academic courses for the Philippine and Asia-Pacific regions.

- The PLDT / Internet facilities hall which serves as the Theater Center's main computer area as well as a performance, exhibit and meeting space.

- A library and Resource Center offering valuable material sources for theater research and creative activities that have been collected through the decades.

- Administrative office and headquarters.

The Peta Theater Center was designed by the architectural firm of Llanes & Llanes Partners, led by project partner-in-charge Raul Llanes and design consultant Leoncio Y. Llanes II. Their final design features a structure with a prominent overhang, a large



The CENTER'S modern stage will use "black box" design that can be arranged in various ways depending on the performance

articulated canopy and elevated decks with concrete and glass, housing a few theaters within.

Local partners that supported the construction of the Center include the Peta Group, PLDT Foundation, Green Communications, Wholesales by Cgo, Inc., Peta in Philippine, Just Mari Chan, JRC Group (Philippines), National Commission for Culture and the Arts, Comcast Foundation, Pacific

Pacific (Philippines), Inc., DePaulo Peta, Inc., Llanes & Llanes Partners, AARCO, Peta Foundation, Llanes, and others.

International bodies include World for the World, UNESCO and Tera de (American from Germany), Council of the Netherlands, Development and Peace of Canada, Third Foundation and Redcliffe Foundation, Inc., the US, Dutch-Green Group, and Asian Foundation.



BM Concept  
with kids  
workshops

## Playshop summer workshops

NOW ON THE TITLE PAGE, Playshop, the country's top multimedia summer workshop of choice, has a new workshop series at AFP Theater, Quezon City, Mar 18, 8 p.m.

With workshops on theater, drama, music, dancing, storytelling, public speaking and acting, starting April 5, Playshop encourages students to hone their talents and discover other artistic potentials.

New workshops also make Playshop even more exciting. Children can develop their self-perception and confidence through the modeling for children class.

This year also marks the second year of "Summer Fun," an advanced musical theater class launched in a workshop, social environment. Here, students are not mere amateur learners or improvising their own. They also get to produce their own version of a major play.

Like Big Star! Rehearse

Concepts will enhance this year's series of workshops. As early as experienced theater actors, singers and dancers, this 13-year-old began attending Playshop in 2001 and has since been going back every summer.

"I wouldn't be in show business if I wasn't in Playshop because I got my training there. They taught me to sing, to dance and through the years, I've been learning, learning and learning," he says.

Aside from the excellent training students gain from Playshop, classes of "making it" in mainstream TV and entertainment are made possible because of the support of the Philippine television industry and the Philippine television industry.

Enrollment in Playshop is ongoing. Call (02) 825-1111 or (02) 825-1112.

## NAMALIK-MATA KA 'NO?

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